

## Council Priority: PEOPLE

### Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential

#### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETING

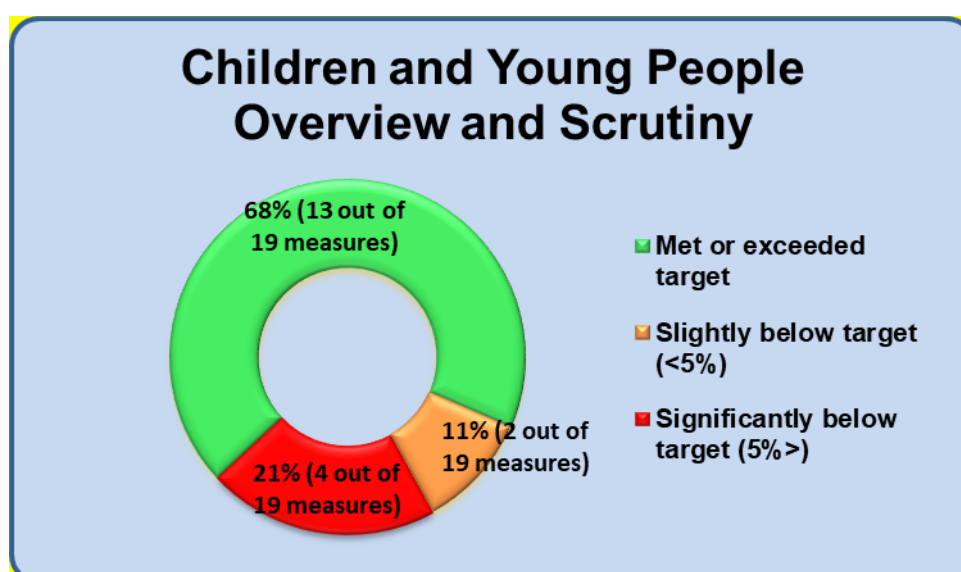
### Performance: Quarter 3 2020/21

#### Key

<b>Red</b>	significantly below target (>5%)	<b>Amber</b>	slightly below target (<5%)	<b>Green</b>	met or exceeded target
<b>IMP</b>	Improved	<b>DET</b>	Worsened	<b>Static</b>	Static
<b>Data</b>	No target	<b>NA</b>	Not available	Not available	Not available
<b>Short Trend</b>	Since last qtr	<b>Long Trend</b>	Avg over last 4 qtrs	Avg over last 4 qtrs	Avg over last 4 qtrs

### Council Plan measures: summary performance

There are 25 Council Plan measures that fall under the remit of this committee. We are reporting on 19 as data for 6 measures is not available this quarter.



#### Improved performance

- 61% (11 out of 18\*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)

- 39% (7 out of 18\*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)  
\*where data available

**Measures in target (green)**

Code	Status	Measure	Long Trend	Short Trend
ILAC1	<b>Green</b>	Average Caseloads in Assessment teams	DET	IMP
ILAC2	<b>Green</b>	Average Caseloads in Post Assessment teams	IMP	IMP
ILAC6	<b>Green</b>	Rate of open CIN cases per 10,000	IMP	IMP
CA13	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)	IMP	STATIC
CASEIKS4 Ofsted	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of secondary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better	IMP	STATIC
CASEISPEC Ofsted	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better	STATIC	STATIC
SE2 OEPr	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of primary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better	IMP	STATIC
CASEIEYFS Gap	<b>Green</b>	Percentage achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean	IMP	IMP
OfstedPrim Mnt	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of Maintained primary schools in Medway judged to be good or better	IMP	STATIC
CSC0006	<b>Green</b>	Number of CP per 10,000 children	IMP	IMP
PH16	<b>Green</b>	Smoking at time of delivery	IMP	IMP
N23	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers	NA	NA
NI 117(16-17)	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of 16-17-year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	IMP	DET

**Measures slightly below target (amber)**

Code	Status	Name	Long Trend	Short Trend
ILAC5	<b>Amber</b>	% of children with long-term fostering as a plan, where the child, carer and service have agreed for the placement to last until the child is ready to leave care.	DET	DET
CSC0004	<b>Amber</b>	Number of LAC per 10,000 children	DET	IMP

**Measures significantly below target (red)**

Code	Status	Name	Long Trend	Short Trend
A1	Red	The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family	IMP	DET
ILAC4	Red	Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S17, where the child was visited within 5 working days.	DET	DET
EDU3(b)	Red	The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school	DET	STATIC
ILAC3	Red	Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S47, where the child was visited within 1 working day.	DET	DET

**Measures not available this quarter**

Code	Status	Name	Long Trend	Short Trend
PH14	NA	Excess weight in 4-5-year olds	NA	NA
PH15	NA	Excess weight in 10-11-year olds	NA	NA
SEKS4A8	NA	Average attainment 8 score	NA	NA
ILAC7	NA	Audit Measure	NA	NA
SE KS2Mnt	NA	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2 in Maintained Schools Only	NA	NA
SE KS2	NA	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2	NA	NA

## Strategic Risks

The quarter 3 20/21 strategic risk register is attached at Appendix 2. The register shows all strategic risks together with mitigation in place to minimise impact and likelihood. The risks pertaining solely to this committee are shown below (full details in Appendix 2).

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SRO9B	4	Keeping vulnerable adolescents safe	Director of People	BII	L - high I - critical

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SR26	9	Non-delivery of Children's Services Improvement	Director of People	All	L – very high I - critical
SR39	10	Lack of resources to keep young people with SEND safe due to increasing demand and complexity of need pressures	Director of People	BII	L - high I - critical

The following risks pertain to all priorities:

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SRO3B	14	Finances	Chief Finance Officer	AI	L – very high I - catastrophic
SR46	17	Medway's Economic Recovery from Covid19	AD Regeneration (Recovery Lead Officer for Medway Council	BII	L - high I - critical
SR32	23	Data and information	Chief Legal Officer	CII	L - significant I - critical
SR36	25	Alternative service delivery models	Chief Legal Officer, Director of RCET	BIII	L - high I - Marginal
SR37	29	Cyber Security	Chief Finance	CI	L - Significant I -

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
			e Officer		Catastrophic
SR02	35	Business continuity and emergency planning	Director of Place	DII	L - low I - critical
SR49	39	Income Reduction due to Covid19	Chief Finance Officer	BII	L - high I - critical

## Council Plan Outcome: Healthy and active communities

### Programme: Improving everyone's health and reducing inequalities

#### Council Plan Measures

#### PH14 Excess weight in 4-5 year olds

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2019/20	22.4%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2018/19	21.5%	24%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

The data for 2019/20 will be published in quarter 4.

#### PH15 Excess weight in 10-11 year olds

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2019/20	34%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2018/19	34%	36.2%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

The data for 2019/20 will be published in quarter 4.

#### Supporting Healthy Weight

As part of the whole system strategy, Medway launched a physical activity alliance in December, which is a subgroup of the Healthy Weight network. Partner engagement was hampered by the date of the event being the last day of the November/ December national restrictions. Many of the exercise providers were busy re-opening gyms and centres. However, the alliance has 30 organisations signed up and committed to

working in partnership to increase activity levels of residents. This is the final subgroup of the network joining the already established infant feeding strategy group and food partnership.

In addition to this strategic activity, the Better Care Fund has agreed to pilot a two-year tier weight management service for young people. This intensive support service will mirror the adult tier 3 service (Tipping the Balance) and aim to support 50 young people and their families per year.

## Council Plan Outcome: Resilient families

### Programme: Together We Can - Children's Services Council Plan Measures

#### A1 The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	450	510	Red	Minimise	IMP	DET
Q2 2020/21	450	507	Red	Minimise	IMP	IMP

#### Comments

The 3-year average has seen an increase to 510 days, impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and some delays in finalising court proceedings

#### Actions:

Medway has now joined with Kent and Bexley into a Regional Adoption Agency so the service will work through the RAA to identify adoptive families in a timely way.

#### Benchmarking

The latest national benchmark is 486 days, and the statistical neighbour outturn is 440. Medway is closer in line with the South East benchmark of 529.

#### CSC0004 Number of LAC per 10,000 children

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	70.0%	70.6%	Amber	Minimise	DET	IMP
Q2 2020/21	70.0%	73.5%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

#### Comments

At the end of September there were 467 looked after children, as at 31st December 2020 there were 444, a decrease of 23 children. There was a small rise in the number

of looked after children through the first COVID-19 lockdown, but this has now stabilised. Some court proceedings which took longer to finalise due to court backlogs, have now concluded.

### Benchmarking

Nationally there are 65 Looked After Children per 10,000 population, Medway has a lower rate than our statistical neighbours, at 74 per 10k. However, the rate in the South East is lower than in Medway, at 53 per 10,000 population.

#### CSC0006 Number of CP per 10,000 children

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	65.3%	29%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q2 2020/21	65.3%	48%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

### Comments

At the end of December 2020 there were 182 children on a CP plan, a further reduction of 121 children from Q2. The focus in the Improvement Plan on improving quality of practice, introducing additional scrutiny of child in need plans, and working proactively with adolescents, has led to this reduction and brought Medway more in line with national and statistical neighbours.

### Action:

Appoint a Child in Need Reviewing officer to support scrutiny and challenge of Child in Need Plans.

Support the expansion of the adolescent service to continue to provide an appropriate multi-agency response to risks associated with contextual safeguarding

### Benchmarking

Medway is below the latest National and Statistical neighbour rate, of 43 per 10,000 and South East rate of 41.

#### ILAC1 Average Caseloads in Assessment teams

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	22	14.2	Green	Minimise	DET	IMP
Q2 2020/21	22	14.7	Green	Minimise	DET	DET

### Comments

Case load reduction is a key focus of the Improvement Plan, acknowledging that quality of practice is dependent on workers having a manageable workload.

The snapshot at the end of December 2020 shows the average caseload is 14.2, down from Q2, and remains comfortably below target. 3% of social workers have caseloads above target, a reduction from 7% in Q2 with the highest caseload of any worker being 23

#### Actions:

Staffing resources will be kept under review to maintain caseloads at manageable levels which support positive interventions with children and families.

### ILAC2 Average Caseloads in Post Assessment teams

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	18	11.8	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q2 2020/21	18	14.4	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

A snapshot at the end of December 2020 shows post assessment social work teams (Areas 1 to 4) Social Workers have an average caseload of 11.8 and a reduction from 14.4 at the end September 2020 and remains below target. The highest caseload is 23 and 17% social workers have caseloads over the target down from 28% in September 2020.

### ILAC3 Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S47, where the child was visited within 1 working day.

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	90.0%	80%	Red	Maximise	DET	DET
Q2 2020/21	90.0%	94%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

#### Comments

This is a new Council Plan measure, introduced following the ILAC inspection, which challenged unidentified risk. The Improvement Plan has a clear focus on quality of practice, including assessment and plans. September 2020 saw the highest reported figure of 94% and above target, performance has fallen to 80% as at end December 2020.

#### Actions:

Continue to review this indicator regularly at Performance Clinics. Where a delay is identified, each case is scrutinised.

### ILAC4 Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S17, where the child was visited within 5 working days.



Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	85%	70%	Red	Maximise	DET	DET
Q2 2020/21	85%	74%	Red	Maximise	DET	DET

**Comments**

This is a new Council Plan measure, introduced following the ILAC inspection, which challenged unidentified risk. The Improvement Plan has a clear focus on quality of practice, including assessment and plans. September 2020 saw the highest reported figure of 94% and above target, performance has fallen to 80% as at end December 2020.

**Actions:**

Continue to review this indicator regularly at Performance Clinics. Where a delay is identified, each case is scrutinised.

**ILAC5 % of children with long-term fostering as a plan, where the child, carer and service have agreed for the placement to last until the child is ready to leave care.**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	60.0%	59%	Amber	Maximise	DET	DET
Q2 2020/21	60.0%	65%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

**Comments**

This measure is currently sitting just below target, having improved from a low of 19%. Achieving permanency for children is a key issue in the improvement plan and mechanisms have been put in place to review permanency plans and to strengthen the work of the fostering panel to continue to improve on this indicator.

**Actions:**

Fully implement the Permanency Policy and convene regular permanency panels. Implement the Fostering Strategy to increase supply, choice and support for carers.

**ILAC6 Rate of open CIN cases per 10,000**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	382	299	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q2 2020/21	382	330	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

## Comments

A child in need is defined, under the Children Act 1989 “as a child who is unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health or development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services, or the child is disabled.” This includes all looked after Children and all children on a child protection plan as well as other children supported by social services who are not, looked after on a CP plan.

Ensuring children can access the right service at the right time is part of the vision for the service and reviewing the threshold for statutory service provision is an action in the Improvement Plan. This has been done in consultation with partners, due to be signed off in January.

### Action:

Launch the revised Threshold Document with partners and support through workshops. Monitor appropriateness of referrals and re-referral rates.

## Benchmarking

Nationally there are 324 CIN cases per 10,000 population. This is slightly higher 331 for our statistical neighbour group and at 304 in the South East.

### N23 The percentage of children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	25%	21%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q2 2020/21	25%	30%	Red	Minimise	DET	IMP

## Comments

This measure is a national indicator that describes the total percentage of substantive posts not permanently filled throughout the whole Service and includes posts outside of the Assessment and post assessment teams.

There has been a 6-percentage point improvement in the vacancy rate. This is a 17% positive move, because of a strong focus on both recruitment and retention of staff and the roll out of a Workforce Development Strategy supported across Council partners including HR and communications.

### Action:

Continue to roll out targeted recruitment and provide opportunities for internal career progression and development to support retention

### ILAC7 Audit Measure TBC

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

The service is undertaking significant auditing and review to establish how this can be appropriately measured

## Programme: The best start in life

### Council Plan Measures

#### CASEIYFS Gap Percentage achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2018/19	30.0%	28.7%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
2017/18	29.5%	31.8%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

Data is now published for the 18/19 academic year (reported 19/20). Medway has made a 10% improvement (3.1pp) compared to the 17/18 academic year (reported 18/19). This is a strong performance. Medway is now better than national, by 11% (3.7pp) and more importantly Medway has seen an improvement year on year, whilst nationally rates have worsened, by 2%. This means that Medway has now moved from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile into the first quartile (best performing.) nationally.

#### PH16 Smoking at time of delivery

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q2 2020/21	17.5%	15.27%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q1 2020/21	17.5%	18.37%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

The data reported represents SATOD prevalence for the whole of Kent & Medway in line with the new CCG footprint. Work is underway to identify if data can be obtained for the Medway footprint only.

Medway Stop Smoking Service has maintained service delivery throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by adapting to remote smoking cessation consultations and maintaining provision of stop smoking medication. We have continued to work effectively with midwifery colleagues, resulting in increased midwife referrals from 120 in Q2 (2019/20) to 133 in Q2 (2020/21). To date, we have seen an **8.7% increase** in referrals compared to the same period last year – 322 referrals (2019/20 YTD) compared to 350 referrals (2020/21 YTD).

#### Healthy Child Programme

The service has been significantly impacted since the start of March 2020 due to COVID-19. The service was back in full action from October to December before the restrictions of the latest lockdown. As of January 2021, HCP staff have not been redeployed again but we expect some slippage of this position as part of the combined response to pressure on Medway hospital. Cover for all 5 mandated checks is still strong, although 1 year and 2.5 year have now gone back to digital checks unless the family has a vulnerability or an issue. School Nursing demand is high, and we are in the process of recruiting additional nurses to support schools with mental health and wellbeing. We expect the additional nurses be in place by easter. A digital inclusion project with access to tablets and data for Health Visiting, midwifery and Early Help will be in place by March 1st to support families struggling digitally.

The Child Health team have been providing ongoing resource packs and lesson plans to schools. They are now producing monthly return to school packs for both staff and students. The packs cover everything from bereavement to domestic abuse. The packs have been shared nationally and are being used by 14 other English local authorities, as well as the Welsh school board. The team are still working with schools to ensure they are all ready to meet the new national requirements around Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) from September 2021. The team are leading on the Department for Education 'Wellbeing for Education Return programme', which is due to be completed by March 2021

Public Health have commissioned a media agency to work with the Council on innovative messaging and channels. This will be aimed at young people around COVID-19. Working with the Communications and Digital team, the campaign has been very successful with nearly half a million views of the images and videos on social media, work is ongoing until the end of lockdown

## Council Plan Outcome: All children achieving their potential in schools

**Programme: Raising aspiration and ambition**

**Council Plan measures**

### CA13 The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	0.02%	0.00%	Green	Minimise	IMP	STATIC
Q2 2020/21	0.02%	0.00%	Green	Minimise	IMP	STATIC

Please note, the annual target of 0.06% is apportioned across each quarter.

There was 1 permanent exclusion in Q3, which has since been updated to a declined re-instatement.

In the 20/21 academic year so far, 9 exclusion processes were started. 3 are awaiting an outcome (33% of all stated exclusions), 2 were retracted or not upheld (22% of all stated exclusions) and 1 has been recorded as 'Possible' (11% of all stated exclusions). 2 exclusions remain unresolved and 1 exclusion was recorded as declined reinstatement.

Of the 9 permanent exclusion processes started, 1 attended a primary school and the remaining 8 attended Secondary schools. 8 of the 9 exclusions were from academies and 1 was from an independent provision.

1 pupil had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), 2 were receiving SEND Support and 6 pupils did not have a SEND status.

Clearly COVID19 and the closure of schools has been a significant factor in reducing the numbers of exclusions.

#### Benchmarking

Nationally the rate of permanent exclusions is 0.1% (2017-18)

#### **CASEIKS4 Ofsted Partnership measure: Percentage of all Secondary Schools judged good or better**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	85%	94.4%	Green	Maximise	IMP	Static
Q2 2020/21	85%	94.4%	Green	Maximise	IMP	Static

#### Comments

Of the 18 Secondary schools in Medway 4 are classed as outstanding, 13 are good and 1 is inadequate. This means that 17 of 18 are good or better. The inadequate judgment applies to the Waterfront UTC from its time as Medway UTC.

#### Benchmarking

Nationally this figure is 76% and the South East currently has 86.6% of schools graded good or better.

#### Actions

During COVID19 Parliament has suspended Ofsted as an inspection regulator.

#### **CASEISPEC Ofsted The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	90.0%	100%	Green	Maximise	Static	Static
Q2 2020/21	90.0%	100%	Green	Maximise	Static	Static

During COVID19 Parliament has suspended Ofsted as an inspection regulator

### **EDU3(b) The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	11.4%	13.5%	Red	Minimise	DET	Static
Q2 2020/21	11.4%	13.5%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

Due to school closures PA was not collected in the Autumn census, therefore there is no updated data at present.

Benchmarking

Nationally the 2018-19 rate of PA was 11.4%

### **OfstedPrimMnt The percentage of Maintained primary schools in Medway judged to be good or better**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	93%	96%	Green	Maximise	IMP	STATIC
Q2 2020/21	93%	96%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

24 out of 25 LA maintained primary schools are rated good or better, with 4 graded outstanding, 1 requires improvement.

Due to COVID19 Parliament has suspended Ofsted as an inspection regulator, so there are no changes from quarter 2.

### **SE KS2 The percentage of children who the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2**

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2019/20	65%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA
2018/19	64%	64%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Due to Covid 19 there will be no KS2 data for the 19-20 academic year.

### **SE KS2Mnt The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2 in Maintained Schools Only**

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2019/20	65%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA

Due to Covid 19 there will be no data for the 19-20 academic year.

### **SE2 OEPr Partnership measure: Percentage of all Primary Schools judged good or better**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	87.5%	89.5%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP
Q2 2020/21	87.5%	89.5%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Currently 68 schools are good and better, 8 are outstanding and 60 are good from a cohort of 76.

There are 51 academies. Of these 86% are good or better (4 Outstanding and 40 Good) 3 require improvement and 4 are inadequate.

Due to COVID19 Parliament has suspended Ofsted as an inspection regulator, so there are no changes from quarter 2.

### **SEKS4A8 Average attainment 8 score**

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
2019/20	46.6%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA
2018/19	46.6%	46.6%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

#### Comments

Due to Covid-19 and the closure of schools there will be no data for the 19/20 academic year.

## Council Priority: GROWTH

### Maximising regeneration and economic growth

#### Council Plan Outcome: Resident with jobs and skills

#### Programme: Jobs, Skill and Employability

##### Council Plan Measures

**NI 117(16-17) The percentage of 16-17-year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q3 2020/21	2.6%	2.60%	Green	Minimise	IMP	DET
Q2 2020/21	2.6%	1.60%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

The rate of NEET 16- and 17-year olds is 2.6 %. this represents 169 young people.

Due to the cyclical nature of this measure comparisons are made to the position 12 months ago rather than from quarter to quarter.

In November 2019 2.8% of 16- and 17-year olds, 180 individuals, were NEET. Year on year there has been a 6.1% improvement in the proportion of young people who are NEET. There are currently 11 less 16- and 17-year old's who are NEET than a year ago.

The rate of NEET must be looked at in conjunction with the number of 16- and 17-year olds whose activity is not known. Currently this is 10.2% which represents 673 individuals. In November 2019 there were 627 children whose activity was unknown this was 12.8%. As such, compared to last year this statistic has improved by 20%

The reduction in the number of not knowns will have been one reason for the increase in the number of NEETs. However, to contextualise the data the combined NEET/not Known percentage is now 12.7%, compared to 12.8% a year ago.

##### Benchmarking

Nationally the rate of NEET is at 2.5 % for November and at 2.1% in the South East.

The National rate of Not Knowns is 5.7% and the rate in the South East is 8.1%. Both have worsened compared to last year 0.9% and 2.5% respectfully. However, Medway has seen more of a deterioration at 3.7%.



Nationally the combined NEET/Not known percentage is 8.2% and in the South east it is 11.6%. As such, Medway is worse than both National and the South East. Kent's combined rate is 10.1%